



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 154

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2008

No. 42

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TIERNEY).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

March 12, 2008.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN F. TIERNEY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend W. James Thomas, II, Shiloh Church of Memphis, Memphis, Tennessee, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, we come before You today to praise You for Your goodness to our Nation and for blessing us in ways we do not deserve. We celebrate the diversity of languages and cultures that have shaped and enriched our national life. With the many problems we face in our Nation, we thank You for leaders who are passionate about our Nation's future.

And now, dear God, give us Your light and Your truth to guide us. Keep our faces toward You and our feet in paths of righteousness. Give our Nation's leaders the fortitude to stand strong for what is right. Keep us, sustain us, and do not allow us to lose sight of You. Deliver us from sin, pardon our offenses, and absolve us from all wickedness. Grant us the highest joy, that of glorifying and enjoying You.

This we pray in Your holy name. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the

last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CUELLAR led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1593. An act to reauthorize the grant program for reentry of offenders into the community in the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, to improve reentry planning and implementation, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has agreed to without amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, concurrent resolutions of the House of the following titles:

H. Con. Res. 270. Concurrent resolution to make corrections in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 1593.

H. Con. Res. 306. Concurrent resolution permitting the use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2516. An act to assist members of the Armed forces in obtaining United States citizenship, and for other purposes.

WELCOMING REV. W. JAMES THOMAS, II

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, our pastor today was Pastor W. James Thomas, II.

Pastor Thomas is God's visionary for Shiloh Church of Memphis, located in Memphis, Tennessee. Serving as pastor since 1994, his consistent obedience to God has taken the Shiloh congregation from glory to glory. The membership has grown from 75 to 600 and counting. During these years, Pastor Thomas has been preaching and teaching God's uncompromising Word with a boldness that has changed the lives of the people at Shiloh and throughout the country.

To accommodate the vision and growth of the church membership, Pastor Thomas led the congregation in the acquisition of a 19,000 square foot worship and educational facility in 1998. In

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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2003, the sanctuary was completely renovated and office complex expanded.

Spiritually, Pastor Thomas was saved and received much of his spiritual development in the Church of God in Christ. He was called to the ministry at the age of 14 and began pastoring at the age of 18 in Knoxville, Tennessee. He graduated cum laude from Crichton College in Memphis with a bachelor of science degree in Biblical studies and is currently a candidate for the master of divinity degree. He has also attended and received degrees from Harvard University and Yale University, where he had completed the first Graduate School of Theological Studies' special intensive course at Harvard Divinity School in Cambridge and the Yale School of Divinity in September 2006.

He's very active in our community in Memphis, Tennessee. He is married to Minister Antonia R. Thomas, who serves alongside him in the ministry. And even possibly as important or more important than this congregation, he has two children. One is Private First Class Reginald Cleveland, who is an officer and security person for this Chamber, from Memphis, Tennessee, who is here today; and he has a daughter in middle school.

I appreciate Pastor Thomas serving the United States House of Representatives as our pastor this morning.

CALENDAR WEDNESDAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KIND). Today is the day of Calendar Wednesday. The Clerk will call the roll of committees.

The Clerk called the committees.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. SESSIONS (during the call). I have a point of parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas may state his inquiry.

Mr. SESSIONS. I understand that the procedure that the Chair just went through is known as Calendar Wednesday. Is it correct that any bill reported by a committee and placed on the Union or House Calendar could have been called up by the chairman as the committee name was read?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Calendar Wednesday business may be called up only on formal authorization by the reporting committee.

Mr. SESSIONS. A further point of parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. SESSIONS. On February 12, a bipartisan majority in the Senate passed S. 2248, a responsible bill to provide long-term authority for our intelligence community to help detect and prevent acts of terrorism. For a month now, it has been sitting at the desk in the House awaiting action. Would it have been in order for the chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence or the chairman of the Judiciary Committee or their designee to call up S. 2248 at this time?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. No.

Mr. SESSIONS. Further point of parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. SESSIONS. H.R. 5440, the House counterpart to this bipartisan Senate legislation, was introduced by Congressman FOSSELLA on February 14. Would it be possible for Mr. HOEKSTRA, the ranking member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, to call up this bill under his committee's jurisdiction or for any of the 21 members of the Democrat majority who signed a letter to Speaker PELOSI on January 28 asking her to move this legislation to "ensure a strong national security apparatus that can thwart terrorist attacks across the globe and to save American lives here in this country," for them to call up this bill?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. A committee member other than the chairman must have specific authorization of the committee to call up a bill on Calendar Wednesday.

Mr. SESSIONS. Further point of inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. SESSIONS. Is it in order for any member of the minority to call up a long-term FISA modernization bill that would strengthen the Nation's intelligence capacities while protecting the civil liberties of Americans during the call of the committees?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Again, a committee member other than the chairman must have specific authorization of the committee to call up a bill on Calendar Wednesday.

Mr. SESSIONS. I thank the gentleman for letting us know that it's up to the chairman or the Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will continue.

The Clerk called the committees.

□ 1015

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TIERNEY). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to adjourn.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 5, nays 375, not voting 49, as follows:

[Roll No. 124]

YEAS—5

Davis, Lincoln	Johnson (IL)	Miller, George
Honda	Kingston	

NAYS—375

Abercrombie	Dingell	Kucinich
Ackerman	Doggett	Kuhl (NY)
Aderholt	Donnelly	LaHood
Akin	Doyle	Lamborn
Alexander	Drake	Lampson
Allen	Dreier	Langevin
Altmire	Duncan	Larsen (WA)
Andrews	Edwards	Larson (CT)
Arcuri	Ehlers	Latham
Baca	Ellison	LaTourette
Bachmann	Ellsworth	Latta
Baldwin	Emanuel	Lee
Barrett (SC)	Emerson	Levin
Barrow	Engel	Lewis (CA)
Bartlett (MD)	English (PA)	Lewis (GA)
Barton (TX)	Eshoo	Lewis (KY)
Bean	Etheridge	Linder
Becerra	Everett	Lipinski
Berkley	Fallin	LoBiondo
Berman	Farr	Loebsack
Berry	Fattah	Loftgren, Zoe
Biggert	Feeney	Lowe
Bilbray	Ferguson	Lucas
Bilirakis	Filner	Lungren, Daniel
Bishop (GA)	Flake	E.
Bishop (NY)	Forbes	Lynch
Blackburn	Fortenberry	Mack
Blumenauer	Foster	Mahoney (FL)
Blunt	Fox	Maloney (NY)
Boehner	Frank (MA)	Manzullo
Bonner	Franks (AZ)	Marshall
Bono Mack	Frelinghuysen	Matheson
Boozman	Gallely	Matsui
Boren	Garrett (NJ)	McCarthy (CA)
Boswell	Gerlach	McCarthy (NY)
Boustany	Giffords	McCollum (MN)
Boyd (FL)	Gillibrand	McCotter
Boyda (KS)	Gohmert	McCrery
Brady (PA)	Gonzalez	McDermott
Brady (TX)	Goode	McGovern
Braley (IA)	Goodlatte	McHenry
Broun (GA)	Granger	McHugh
Brown (SC)	Graves	McIntyre
Brown-Waite,	Green, Al	McKeon
Ginny	Green, Gene	McMorris
Buchanan	Gutierrez	Rodgers
Burton (IN)	Hall (NY)	McNerney
Butterfield	Hare	McNulty
Buyer	Harman	Meeks (NY)
Calvert	Hastings (FL)	Melancon
Camp (MI)	Hastings (WA)	Mica
Campbell (CA)	Hayes	Michaud
Cannon	Heller	Miller (FL)
Cantor	Hensarling	Miller (MI)
Capito	Herger	Miller (NC)
Capps	Herseth Sandlin	Miller, Gary
Capuano	Higgins	Mitchell
Carney	Hill	Mollohan
Carter	Hinojosa	Moore (KS)
Castle	Hirono	Moore (WI)
Castor	Hobson	Moran (KS)
Chabot	Hodes	Moran (VA)
Chandler	Hoekstra	Murphy (CT)
Clarke	Holden	Murphy, Patrick
Cleaver	Holt	Murphy, Tim
Clyburn	Hoyer	Musgrave
Coble	Hulshof	Myrick
Cohen	Hunter	Nadler
Cole (OK)	Inglis (SC)	Napolitano
Conaway	Inslee	Neal (MA)
Conyers	Israel	Neugebauer
Cooper	Issa	Nunes
Costa	Jackson (IL)	Obey
Courtney	Jackson-Lee	Olver
Cramer	(TX)	Ortiz
Crenshaw	Johnson, E. B.	Pallone
Crowley	Johnson, Sam	Pascarell
Cuellar	Jones (NC)	Pastor
Davis (AL)	Jordan	Paul
Davis (CA)	Kagen	Payne
Davis (IL)	Kanjorski	Pearce
Davis (KY)	Keller	Pence
Davis, David	Kennedy	Perlmutter
Davis, Tom	Kildee	Peterson (MN)
Deal (GA)	Kilpatrick	Petri
DeFazio	Kind	Pickering
DeGette	King (IA)	Pitts
Delahunt	King (NY)	Platts
DeLauro	Kirk	Poe
Dent	Klein (FL)	Pomeroy
Diaz-Balart, L.	Kline (MN)	Porter
Diaz-Balart, M.	Knollenberg	Price (GA)